

## REPORT OF THE YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU

Court Diversion continues to play an important role in the lives of young people who have been charged with committing a first time offense. The staff of the Youth Bureau Court Diversion Program hold each youth accountable for his or her offense, and instills a sense of community ownership and citizenship through acts of service. It provides accountability and support for academics and uses the youth's strengths and interests as a tool to motivate him or her. The program aims to educate juveniles about the consequences of poor choices, not only others, but also themselves and their families.

Over the past six years, The Alton Police Department has referred 38 cases to the Court Diversion Program. In addition to the Court Diversion Program, there are number of Youth Service Bureau Programs that will benefit the citizens of Alton. These programs include the Upswing Program (CHINS Diversion), Teen Court, The Challenge Course, the Family Mediation Program, The Prime for Life Program and the Youth Educational Shoplifting Program.

We have a positive working relationship with the police, schools and citizens of Alton.

Respectfully submitted,  
Trisha Burton  
Director